

## **Nebraska Adolescent Health Advisory Committee (NAHAC) Young Adult Member Application**

### **NAHAC Information**

*Committee Overview:* NAHAC collaborates to develop, advise and advocate for programs that will advance the health of Nebraska adolescents and young adults to ensure Nebraska adolescents are empowered and able to live safe, healthy, and successful lives. NAHAC infuses youth voice into all its process through gathering voice in the communities and inclusion of at least six members on the NAHAC.

*Eligibility:* Applicants should be:

- Nebraska resident,
- Age 14-24,
- Interested in health-related issues; and,
- Open, passionate and dedicated to helping all youth and young adults have a voice in their health services.

*Role and Responsibilities:* NAHAC youth members are expected to:

- Actively participate in partnerships of the NAHAC.
- Follow all NAHAC and Department of Public Health policies.
- Represent the committee in a responsible, professional manner.
- Share your and your peers' perspectives, ideas and opinions at all bi-monthly NAHAC meetings.
- Vote alongside all other NAHAC members on all issues.
- Assist in planning and completion of committee projects.
- Participate in other committee opportunities/projects of interest.
- Remain open to and in search of further opportunities to incorporate youth voice into the work of NAHAC.
- Maintain confidentiality of personal experiences shared by committee members.
- Ask questions, draw attention to potential barriers and present possible solutions to committee and system practices and policies.

*Support Responsibilities of Professional Members:* NAHAC members agree to provide the following supports, when possible and needed.

- Insight and information about health, grant programs and other system components,
- Connection to educational opportunities,
- An open mind and welcoming atmosphere for youth members feel comfortable,
- Honesty and direction about ways to grow in professional settings,
- Accountability,
- Answer questions about grants, programs, best practices, policies and other process things,
- Maintain confidentiality of personal experiences shared by committee members,
- Encouragement and celebration,
- Stipend and mileage reimbursement to make attending meetings easier,
- Help figuring out arrangements to attend meetings either in person or virtually; and,
- Mentorship.

*Process:* Submit an application to Michaela Meisner by mail: Adolescent Health, Lifespan Health, 301 Centennial Mall South/P.O. Box 95026, Lincoln NE 68509, by email: michaela.meisner@nebraska.gov, or by fax: (402) 471-7049.

*Selection:* Applications will be reviewed, electronically, by the committee and all applicants will be notified within a month of submitting of the application. Committee members will use the following questions to review applications.

1. Does the applicant come from a geographical area not represented on the committee?
2. Does the applicant represent a population not currently represented on the committee?
3. Who could serve as this member's mentor?

## Application

### *Basic Information:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Means of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about NAHAC?: \_\_\_\_\_

### *Short Answer Questions:*

*Please answer the following questions in a short paragraph.*

1. NAHAC makes every effort to ensure members represent diverse populations and experiences. Please describe what experiences and viewpoints you would bring to your membership on NAHAC?
2. What do you believe is the biggest health-related issue impacting Nebraska youth?
3. Describe one step or project you'd like to see taken by NAHAC to improve health services and supports for youth.

**Question? Contact Michaela Meisner, DHHS Division of Public Health Adolescent Health Program Manager, at (402) 471-0538 or [michaela.meisner@nebraska.gov](mailto:michaela.meisner@nebraska.gov).**